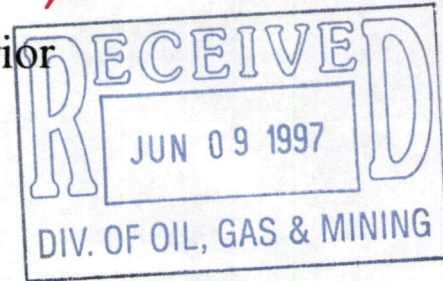




United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District
Price River/San Rafael Resource Area
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501



3809
(UTU-73777)
(UT-066)

Brett T. Webster
U. S. Gypsum Company
P. O. Box 570160
83 North State
Sigurd, Utah 84657

JUN - 5 1997

Dear Mr. Webster:

We have received and reviewed your plan of operations for a gypsum mine in Emery County, Utah and we have found it to be incomplete. We require the following information in order to consider the plan to be complete.

1. The schedule of development and reclamation needs to be addressed in detail, with the map and the written portion being tied together. Any access roads left in place need to be included as well. Also, do not include the road right-of-way in the development/reclamation schedule or if you do so list it separately.
2. The cross section of the access road needs to be included in the plan, as does the amount of disturbance due to the construction. We also need the location of any culverts and their size or any low-water crossings. The location of the access road in regard to the mine site should be shown on a map.
3. The location of the topsoil stockpiles need to be shown on the map, as should any structures or stationary equipment. The cryptogamic stockpiles should be shown as being separate from the topsoil stockpiles.
4. The number of truck trips for hauling gypsum at the various production rates needs to be included.
5. All surveys which were conducted need to be included. Surveys include but are not limited to cultural, soil, and vegetative surveys.
6. A signature of an authorized official of U. S. Gypsum Company is needed either in the plan of operations or in a transmittal letter.
7. Any material referenced in the plan should be included in the plan as an appendix and referenced as an appendix.
8. The amount of topsoil being saved needs to be addressed. Measures being used to stabilize the stockpiles should be included.

9. The route in the plan of operations and the one in the one addressed in the environmental assessment are not the same. Another archaeological inventory will have to be completed if the route is changed. Please clarify.

10. A statement to the effect that you will report to us any vertebrate fossils, beds of invertebrate fossils, or other fossils of significance, so we can examine the fossils and make a determination. Paleontology is mentioned in the environmental assessment.

11. Due to a change in the regulations, we now require a reclamation cost estimate. This of course should be tied into the development/reclamation schedule.

12. Please change the seed mixture to: Indian ricegrass, 4 pounds; Needle-and-thread grass, 2 pounds; Galleta grass, 2 pounds; shadscale, 2 pounds; Scarlet globemallow, 2 pounds; Yellow sweet clover, 2 pounds; and Prostrate kochia, 3 pounds, for a total of 20 pounds. Also, the heading "Shrubs" should be Shrubs and Forbs.

14. Any and all dust suppression measures should be included, including those pertaining to onsite crushing/screening and use of a reclaimer.

15. The work schedules should be spelled out. Daylight hours only or will there be night work also? Will you work only on weekdays or will you also work on weekends? This should be addressed at all production levels.

16. The owner names and addresses need to be included.

Submission of this plan of operation does not address the right-of-way for the access road off the mining claims. A separate application will have to be made for the road right-of-way.

Sincerely,

/s/ THOMAS E. RASMUSSEN

Acting Area Manager

cc: Bryant Anderson

Emery County Planning and Zoning

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Kiran Bhayani

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